



Keith Chapman  
Town Manager

# TOWN OF NEWINGTON

131 CEDAR STREET  
NEWINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06111

**MAYOR BETH DELBUONO**

**NEWINGTON TOWN COUNCIL**

## MEETING MINUTES

January 14, 2020

RECEIVED FOR AGENDA  
JANUARY 14, 2020

2020 JAN 21 PM 1:15

*James E. Krupinski*  
Town Clerk

Mayor DelBuono called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. in Room L-101

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

II. ROLL CALL

Councilor Anest  
Councilor Braverman  
Councilor Budrejko  
Councilor Camillo  
Councilor Donahue  
Councilor Manke  
Councilor Miner  
Mayor DelBuono

Staff Attendees:

Keith Chapman, Town Manager  
James E. Krupinski, Town Clerk  
Susan Gibbon, Council Clerk

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion to approve the agenda, as amended, by Councilor Manke seconded by Councilor Anest.  
Motion passed 8-0 (Councilor Nagel absent). Councilor Manke made a motion to move Item VII.B.  
Annual Visit with State Legislators to before Consideration of Old Business and to remove Item VII.C.  
Update to Chapter 85, Personnel, Section 1, Classified & Exempt Service. Seconded by Councilor Anest.  
Motion passed 8-0 (Councilor Nagel absent).

- Mayor DelBuono introduced Keith Chapman as the new Town Manager.
- Town Manager Chapman stated that he is honored to be back in Newington. Has worked in public works positions since 1971. Came back to Newington in 1987 as Assistant Town Manager, promoted to Town Manager in Newington from 1991 until 2001. Has done consulting and has worked in various towns throughout the state. Newington is the best town he has ever worked for, unique town with many attributes. Look forward to working with the council, residents and staff over the next 6 months.

IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – IN GENERAL (In Person/Via Telephone: 860-665-8736)  
(3 MINUTE TIME LIMIT PER SPEAKER ON ANY ITEM)

- Rose Lyons, 46 Elton Drive welcomed Mr. Chapman back. Welcomed Mayor Zartarian and the state legislators. Would have been a good opportunity for people to come and ask questions. Would be nice to have bi-annual visits with the legislators.

Phone: (860) 665-8510 Fax: (860) 665-8507  
townmanager@newingtonct.gov  
www.newingtonct.gov

- Steven Silvia, 45 Basswood Street stated he is here to make comments regarding the visit of the state legislators. Impressed with them. Have listened to my questions. Hard to budget when we keep getting hit with unfunded mandates; the state has provided funds to the town, appreciate that, but there are little nit-picks, and the letter from the Superintendent outlines those mandates. Please be sensitive and truly consider the impact of future mandates.

V. REMARKS BY COUNCILORS ON PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- Councilor Anest responded to Mrs. Lyons comments regarding the Legislators visits and stated that the council had them at the end of the session last year, and hopefully they will be doing that again.
- Councilor Budrejko responded to Mr. Silvia regarding letters from the town engineer and superintendent of schools.

VII. CONSIDERATION OF NEW BUSINESS (**Action May Be Taken by Waiving the Rules**)

B. Annual Visit from State Legislators

- Representatives Rick Lopes, Gary Turco and Kerry Wood, as well as Senator Matt Lessor were in attendance.
- Representative Lopes asked to have the letters from the superintendent and town engineer be forwarded to them.
- Senator Lessor stated that is a pleasure to be here in Newington. Were able to pass a budget on time this past session. Able to increase money for the town's ECS line item by \$380,000 and \$680,000 next year, a modest increase that will hopefully help offset the impact on property taxpayers. Were able to work on the conveyance of property on Cedar Mountain. One outstanding piece of business from last year was the passage of a bond bill.
- Representative Lopes stated that the off-year session is a short session. Passed a two-year budget last year, this year is about budget adjustments. If you need something, please let us know; difficult to get bills passed in a short year.
- Senator Lessor stated that one issue that came up last year was concerns about passing teacher's pensions costs on to towns. That did not happen. It is one of those issues that keeps coming back.
- Representative Turco stated that although generally new legislation is not introduced this year, they are looking for good ideas from residents of Newington; whether it be removing unfunded mandates or a request from the town engineer regarding infrastructure; looking to bring money to Newington for infrastructure projects. The governor has stated that the state is on a debt diet, funding for baseball fields, etc. is a lot harder to get bond money for, but the need for money for infrastructure, we will got to the capital and fight for that and as well as any other policy issues. Lover to hear from the councilors and residents regarding ideas. Having a forum on Tuesday, January 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 p.m. at the library and will be available to discuss ideas and answer any questions you may have.
- Councilor Budrejko stated that there are two issues brought up residents and the first is the MDC increase. They were here and gave us some rationale behind it and you have all made comments regarding that. MDC did indicate that there was an issue with DEEP and that they are leaking contaminants from the landfill into the system and that they are not paying the same amount that other companies are paying, or they are just not paying at all. MDC estimates that there is \$11 million owed by DEEP to MDC, were that paid, the rate increase would not be that significant to us, what are your thoughts on this?
- Senator Lessor stated that he met with representatives from MDC about this issue yesterday. Have met with both DEEP and MDC about this, dispute of basic facts, my hope is we can look at this in Hartford, but my concern is the rate increase. Looking for

legislative solutions to help increase resident's confidence in MDC, specially there is a claim before the state claims commissioner before anyone can sue the state. If it is not enacted on upon in the next couple of weeks, it will be forwarded to the state judiciary committees to decide whether that can go forward. However, the real concern is the rate increase and how it effects Newington residents.

- Councilor Budrejko asked about tolls. Right now, the proposal is for trucks only. Understand that the Federal Appeals Court stated that truck only tolls violates the trucking industry and their lawsuit can go forward. Hard to believe that can be what happens in Connecticut. Once the gantries are installed, do we remove them, or do we say everyone is paying tolls.
- Representative Lopes stated that the issue is larger than just tools. The public has been too focused on tolls. Getting back to the basics is we have a transportation financing problem in Connecticut. We need at a minimum of \$2 billion per year to do general repairs, if we want to do more than that, more money is needed, probably about \$800 million per year. There are lots of ideas on how to make up that shortfall and tolls is one of them; federally financing is one of them; and borrowing is one of them. Nobody wants tolls, nobody wants to pay more; but we are running out of money. We have been pulling money out of the general fund to subsidize the transportation fund and that is money we can use for other things. Have implored everyone to come up with a plan on how to get this money. Obviously if the lawsuit prevails, what do we do. The reality is that we are horribly short on transportation funding and the leaders of our largest companies in the state support tolls; we just can't have this gridlock. Companies and employees and businesses don't want to do business here if we don't have highways that work. At a certain point we need to have a plan that works. Don't like spending money that took us a long time to save. The State of CT has a \$3 billion surplus. The largest surplus that state has ever had. Don't want to spend that on transportation, need to figure out how to fund that yearly. We need to do something; we cannot do nothing.
- Councilor Camillo asked about MDC and the DEEP Clean Water Act and if there is anything they can do about that.
- Senator Lessor stated that no, MDC entered into an agreement with the EPA. Hard to back out of that.
- Representative Woods stated that one thing they looked into was extending the payment of the bonding from 20 years to 30 or 40 years. Stuck with it; every time there is spill over it is going into the CT river. The urgency to get that taken care of takes priority. Would like to see the infrastructure projects extended to 20-30 years.
- Senator Lessor stated that the MDC is a municipal agency and is not subject to regulation by PURA [sic]; MDC does not have to go before them for rate increases.
- Councilor Camillo stated that the federal excise tax is 12%, told that we will lose the \$600 million from emissions if tolls are put in place.
- Representative Lopes stated he has never heard that. In all the years he has been in office that has not been brought up once.
- Representative Turco stated that he received an email from the trucking industry stating why it shouldn't be truck only tolls, and that wasn't even mentioned.
- Councilor Camillo stated that we have the car emissions, that is why we don't have tolls.
- Representative Lopes stated that he will look into that.
- Mayor DelBuono read a letter into the record from Dr. Maureen L. Brummett, Superintendent of Schools. *[Attached hereto]*.
- Senator Lessor stated that he would have to look into why those would have increase in costs to the Newington public school system. To the extent there are any costs, we did increase the ECS line item, and hopefully that will offset the costs. Don't think anything is taking effect this year.

- Mayor DelBuono stated that this is for next year's budget. Mayor DelBuono read a letter into the record from Fuerstenberg, Town Engineer. *[Attached hereto]*.
- Representative Lopes stated that he agrees we have a financing program when it comes to maintenance.
- Senator Lessor stated that the Town Aid Program is critical for helping with town's maintenance is outstanding and hopefully when we pass a bond bill that will be in there.
- Representative Turco stated it would be helpful if they could get a list of Newington's top infrastructure needs and if the Town puts it through their CIP needs, hopefully jointly fund the projects.
- Representative Woods stated that she wanted to follow up on the unfunded mandates, three were stated tonight, but it sounds as if more were out there. If you could please get us a list of the others, we can work on them.
- Councilor Manke asked other than tolls, what are other hot topics this year.
- Senator Lessor stated that prescription drug prices are a major concern; looking for ways to bring down costs.
- Representative Woods stated that on the environmental side we are looking at ways to alleviate contamination. We put together a jobs bill that is a public/private partnership and job training programs. Lot's of workforce training going on.
- Representative Turco stated that you are going to see a big focus on how to get businesses coming to Connecticut and expanding and growing in Connecticut.
- Councilor Budrejko asked to please keep Newington in mind regarding the state's property on Cedar Mountain. We have a part here and here and it would be nice to connect them.

## VI. CONSIDERATION OF OLD BUSINESS (Action May Be Taken)

### A. Town Hall Project Update

- Marc Schweitzer of Collier's International provided an update on the town hall project. The project is moving. Exterior wise the mason has started working; inside we are sheet rocking the second floor; the rough in on the first floor has started that the framing on the third-floor offices is complete. The sequence is second floor, first floor, third floor. The concrete is complete for the gym bump outs, masonry is ongoing. Concrete subcontractor is working on south foundations for gym. Crane is on site again, erecting steel for the balance of the west side of the community center. Work is on scheduled. Completion date has not changed; demolition date has not changed and the scheduled completion date for the project is still on schedule for February 2021. Was last here in November, and one of the questions posed was the ADA campus wide. Did check the plans, no provisions to get from the police lot up to the town hall via ADA. There will be plenty of parking spots in the new parking area and on Mazzoccoli Way that will be ADA compliant. The other question was access from this parking lot to the new town hall during demo and that will be by the sidewalk on Garfield street.
- Councilor Camillo asked about change orders and how they have been paid. Can you please provide us with that information?
- Mr. Schweitzer stated that he will provide that information to the council.
- Councilor Braverman asked if there were any surprises that shocked you so far.
- Mr. Schweitzer stated that the existing unforeseen conditions were an issue. It's the nature of construction in the northeast. Nothing extremely out of the ordinary. The MDC line was an unforeseen issue. The asbestos in the foundations and the full contaminated soil.
- Mayor DelBuono asked about the overtime.
- Mr. Schweitzer stated that they request overtime when needed. Did some over the summer to catch up. Going forward the mason is working a six-day week, they put people on Saturday's as needed.

- Councilor Manke asked how we stand on the contingencies.
- Mr. Schweitzer stated that when he sends the log it will be listed. It is tight.

B. 2020-2021 Budget Meeting Schedule

Motion by Councilor Anest

**RESOLVED:**

**That the Newington Town Council, pursuant to Section 805 of the Newington Town Charter, will hold two Public Hearings on the proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2020-2021. These Public Hearings will be held at 6:00 p.m. in the Town Hall (unless otherwise indicated) as follows:**

<b>Tuesday, March 17, 2020</b>	<b>Town Manager's Proposed Budget</b>
<b>Tuesday, April 9, 2020</b>	<b>Town Council's Proposed Budget</b>

Seconded by Councilor Camillo. Motion passed 8-0 (Councilor Nagel absent).

VII. **CONSIDERATION OF NEW BUSINESS (Action May Be Taken by Waiving the Rules)**

A. Annual CCHD Presentation

- Charles Brown, Director of Health for the Central Connecticut Health District and Dr. Pat Checko, Board Chair gave their annual presentation. Dr. Brown introduced other members of CCHD. Local health departments are here to prevent, promote and protect. CCHD is the local health department for Newington, Berlin, Rocky Hill and Wethersfield. Cover a combined population of approx. 94,000. One of 20 regional public health departments provide economical services. CCHD has been in their new location for one year at 2080 Silas Deane Highway. Have 11 staff and many volunteers. Total revenue for 2017-2018 was a little over \$1.7 million. A majority of expenditures is salary and benefits. Dr. Brown stated that one of the main things they have done in the past few years is in response to the opioid crisis; work a lot with social services. Did receive a 2-year grant from the Department of Health & Addiction services; currently in second year. Dr. Checko stated that Newington's Department of Social Services and Police Department provided great input in helping CCHD get the grant. Dr. Checko also stated that Newington was the town selected as the town of interest.
- Mayor DelBuono stated that she welcomes the partnership with CCHD on the opioid crisis. Challenging for our EMS and police department. Thank you.
- Dr. Brown stated that is something we all have to work on together to tackle the problem. Recovery is a lifelong thing. A lot of those things fall under the social services realm. Look at your budget with eyes towards recovery. Dr. Checko stated that the long-term goal is to make the 4 towns recovery friendly.
- Dr. Brown stated that they protect against environmental hazards. There were over 400 food services inspections in Newington last year. Cannot get by without our local sanitarians, they have done a great job ensuring people are safe while they eat and play. We responded to 197 complaints regarding housing and property issues regarding housing, garbage and property issues. Putting on Airs program is for asthma prevention and education. Radon Kit distributions, we have free radon kits at the office right now; just need to provide feedback. Lead poisoning prevention is not just paint anymore. We have a walking competition amongst the four towns. Last year Berlin won again, and Newington won the Impact Award for the highest participation. Keep walking. We have a February Fitness Challenge coming up; more of an individual competition. We do flu clinics; it is an important vaccine program. We prepare for flooding and national disasters. We provide free oral health screening clinics in each of our towns.
- Dr. Checko wanted to talk about two topics. One is included in infectious disease. Never too late to get your flu shot and this year we purchased 2,400 flu shots. Important

function of local health. Do reportable disease follow up. All providers, hospitals and schools are required to report incidents. Had a lot of buzz with EEE this summer. We have gotten used to West Nile Virus, while it is out there it is still relatively benign. Zika is not here. EEE is caused by a marsh mosquito that is not common around here. The State of CT has been following this for over 50 years. There is a pocket of endemic EEE across the boarder in Massachusetts, that is why we do surveillance and keep a close eye on this. We have cases of horse equine encephalitis every year, and there is a vaccine. This year we found the mosquito in large numbers, had 3 cases and one death. They will probably be moving more west. We have testing stations all over the state and stations are for due diligence. In the springtime we will provide information regarding this disease. Do not have areas in your yard or businesses to let mosquitos grow. Use larvicide in your storm drains this year; good way to control mosquitos. We have had 52 cases of Lyme disease and tow other bacterial diseases caused by tic bites. Age range is 4 to 89 – it affects everybody. As we continue with global warming, we will see different types of tics and mosquitos. Thinks like bangi fever, rocky mountain fever and malaria could be a part of our very distant future. Measles is a huge issue at the moment. No vaccine prior to 1963 and almost everyone contracted it. In 2000 measles with deemed eliminated in the United States. This year there have been 1,280 cases in 31 states and CT has had four. All states allow for medical exemptions. We have fragile children in our schools and the medical exemption allows them to be in schools. Newington's immunization records show there are no medical waivers; one school went from 5% to nothing and two have some exemptions. In CT we do not have a philosophical waiver.

- Dr. Brown stated that we are looking at preparing for a few things. One is the adoption of the FDA food code. Collecting base line data to talk about what we think is important in the district. Thank you for your support.

C. Update to Chapter 85, Personnel, Section 1, Classified & Exempt Service

- *Tabled until next meeting*

D. Update to Town Council Rules & Procedures

- Councilor Manke stated that he, Councilor Anest and Councilor Donahue reviewed the Town Council Rules and Procedures. There were a couple of main changes. We have removed Section 9 – Work Session Meetings. The other change was to Public Participation and how to work with that so that the people have an opportunity to work with the council. We have increased the length of time for the first opportunity to four minutes and have kept the second opportunity to three minutes. We struggled with letters that are sent into the council and how to deal with. The idea is if we have 1-9 letters, we will read them into the record; anything over 10, we will read the names and addresses only of the people who sent them in. This will give all the councilors an opportunity to review them. We also included the town council website and have letters sent to us no later than 3 p.m. on the day of the meeting. We added Section 14 – Councilor Expectations and that section as a representative of Newington they are expected to maintain a sense of decorum and while at the meetings to turn off cell phones and not access them while at meetings.
- Councilor Budrejko stated that she likes the increase in public participation. Regarding the letters to be read into record, they want their opinions to be heard and understand we can't read them all. Is there a way to state whether or not they are in favor or opposed?
- Councilor Manke stated that they did discuss that, and the letters are made part of the official record with the minutes. But is sometimes hard to know what their opinion is. They may be in favor of one thing, but not another. That would be difficult, not as black and white as a yes and no.

- Councilor Anest stated that the letters was a very large part of their discussions.
- Councilor Donahue stated that it is a stand-alone issue. If it is something clear cut, we can report yes or no.
- Councilor Budrejko stated that it can be subjective, but people will want their name stated with their opinion.
- Councilor Anest stated that if it is a cut or dry issue, we can do possibly do that. That is why we want the letters by 3 p.m. We have public participation in person or via the phone.
- Councilor Donahue stated that they strongly urge people to send the letter to the email address.
- Mayor DelBuono stated that some people may be offended that their letter was not read into the record one week, but it was another night.
- Councilor Anest stated that if there are 10 or more, we will read their names and addresses into the record. We will not be choosing 9 out of 12.
- Councilor Manke stated that there was a lot of discussion regarding the letter issue and how to accomplish that.
- *Provide written communications by letter or email to*  
**TOWNCOUNCIL@NEWINGTONCT.GOV**

#### VIII. RESIGNATIONS/APPOINTMENTS (Action May Be Taken)

##### A. Commission Appointments

Motion by Councilor Manke

#### **RESOLVED:**

**That the Newington Town Council hereby makes the following appointment(s):**

##### Development Commission

9 Members – 3 year staggered term  
3 Alternates – 3 year staggered term  
Member Max: 6; Alternate Max: 2

Name	Address	Party	Term	Replaces
Jay Slater, Member	47 Piper Brook Avenue	R	1/14/2020- 11/30/2022	Replaces S. Dunning DeFacto since 12/1/2019
Jennifer Ancona, Alternate	360 Maple Hill Avenue	R	1/14/2020- 11/30/2022	Vacancy-Resignation of J Slater

##### Environmental Quality Commission

7 Members: 5 public members, 2 Industry members  
residents, 2 NTC Liaisons  
4 year term  
Party Max.: 5

Name	Address	Party	Term	Replaces
Patty Foley, Public Rep	51 Crown Ridge Drive	R	1/14/2020- 11/30/2023	Vacancy
Mark Siems, Industry	131 Knollwood Road	R	1/14/2020- 11/30/2021	Vacancy
Joyce Boncal, Public Rep	18 Kinnear Avenue	R	1/14/2020- 11/30/2023	Replaces D. Pane DeFacto since 12/1/2019

##### Library Board

15 members  
6 year term  
Party max: 4

Name	Address	Party	Term	Replaces
Christine Shooshan	60 Clifford Street	R	1/14/2020-	Vacancy-Resignation of S

Member			11/30/2021	Sharpe
--------	--	--	------------	--------

**Open Space Commission**

7 Members – 4 year term  
Party Max: 5

Name	Address	Party	Term	Replaces
Sandra Goldstein, Member	84 Moreland Avenue	R	1/14/2020- 11/30/2023	Vacancy-C Wojtowicz DeFacto since 12/1/2019

Seconded by Councilor Donahue. Motion passed 8-0 (Councilor Nagel absent).

Motion by Councilor Anest

Town Clerk Krupinski stated under the Development Commission that the appointment of Jennifer Ancona cannot occur until Jay Slater resigns; therefore, appointments cannot be made this evening for Jennifer Ancona or Jay Slater.

Councilor Manke made a motion to amend the motion regarding the appointments of Jennifer Ancona and Jay Slater. Seconded by Councilor Donahue. Motion passed 8-0 (Councilor Nagel absent).

**RESOLVED:**

**That the Newington Town Council here by makes the following appointment(s):**

**Conservation/Inland Wetlands Commission**

7 Members – 4 year staggered term  
3 Alternates – 4 year staggered term  
Member Max: 5  
Alternate Max: 2

Name	Address	Party	Term	Replaces
Bernadette Conway Alternate	177 Hartford Avenue	D	1/14/2020- 11/30/2023	Vacancy

Seconded by Councilor Camillo. Motion passed 8-0 (Councilor Nagel absent).

**B. Appointments - CRCOG Regional Planning Commission**

Motion by Councilor Anest

**RESOLVED:**

**That the Newington Town Council hereby makes the following appointment(s):**

**CRCOG Regional Planning Commission**

Members: Mayor appointment is automatic  
NTC & TPZ Reps appointed by Council

Name	Address	Party	Term	Replaces
TPZ Rep: Stanley Sobieski	26 Deepwood Drive	D	1/14/2020- 11/30/2021	Reappointment of Self TPZ Term 1/9/2018 – 11/30/2021
TPZ Alt. Rep: Stephen Woods	94 New Britain Avenue	D	1/14/2020- 11/30/2021	Reappointment of Self TPZ Term 1/9/2018 – 11/30/2021

Seconded by Councilor Braverman. Motion passed 8-0 (Councilor Nagel absent).

**C. Resignation – Environmental Quality Commission**

Motion by Councilor Anest

**RESOLVED:**

**That the Newington Town Council hereby accepts the resignation of Deb Krawiec from the Environmental Quality Commission, in accordance with email correspondence received by the Town Clerk, dated January 10, 2020.**



Seconded by Councilor Camillo. Motion passed 8-0 (Councilor Nagel absent).

IX. TAX REFUNDS (**Action Requested**)

A. Approval of January 14, 2020 Refund for an Overpayment of Taxes

Motion by Councilor Budrejko

**RESOLVED:**

**That property tax refunds in the amount of \$7,055.81 are hereby approved in the individual amounts and for those named on the “Requests for Refund of an Overpayment of Taxes,” certified by the Revenue Collector, a list of which is attached to this resolution.**

Seconded by Councilor Manke. Motion passed 8-0 (Councilor Nagel absent).

X. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

A. December 10, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes

B. December 17, 2019 Special Meeting Minutes

Motion by Councilor Manke to accept the minutes of the above referenced meetings. Seconded by Councilor Anest. Motion passed 8-0 (Councilor Nagel absent).

XI. WRITTEN/ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE TOWN MANAGER, OTHER TOWN AGENCIES AND OFFICIALS, OTHER GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES AND OFFICIALS AND THE PUBLIC

- None

XII. COUNCIL LIAISON/COMMITTEE REPORTS

- None

XIII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – IN GENERAL (**In Person/Via Telephone: 860-665-8736**)  
(3 MINUTE TIME LIMIT PER SPEAKER ON ANY ITEM)

- Rose Lyons, 46 Elton Drive asked if Mr. Donahue know what the delay time is regarding calling in; sometimes I call in and public participation over. In the public participation section it states that “the chair, at his/her discretion may grant the speaker additional time.” Know you have been very lenient with this, by the time you are told you have 30 seconds you are going back and forth. Do you ask at the beginning for additional time? Also, the last sentence states “the Chair, upon approval by unanimous consent, may allow additional public participation on agenda items under discussion.” Is that for new or old items? Not sure. I asked the Town Clerk for the petition that was filed regarding the housing moratorium, will that be discussed at some point?
- John Bachand, 56 Maple Hill Avenue (via telephone) stated that he wanted to comment on the update regarding the town hall. Suspected that there is no ADA access from new town hall to police station and that is unacceptable. Was sold on this whole campus idea. Aside from the issues that we are not accommodating people with handicaps, afraid not in line with resolution. Would think that ADA compliance would be mandatory.
- Steven Silvia, 45 Basswood Street stated that he is now appoint to various CIP committees and it has been brought to my attention that there are no monies allocated to the FF&E’s of the town hall. At the BOE we may see monies needed for our schools be allocated to FF&E’s at the town hall. Asking for guidance from the Town Manager and Mayor regarding that to the Superintendent and Lou. Hoping to have our schools fixed and having to take out money for our town hall does not make me happy.

- Barbara Skoolacoat [sic], 275 Gale Street stated that she wanted to discuss the affordable housing moratorium. There was an article in the Town Crier on January 7<sup>th</sup> opposing the affordable housing moratorium that TPZ had passed and that upset me. I am for the moratorium. Every town needs to develop its own zoning guidelines and policies on how to carry out affordable housing. There are a lot of things involved with the development of affordable housing – location, number of units, number of stories for the number of units, impact on traffic, impact on schools, impact on infrastructure, impact on town services, impact on wetlands, etc. Who is going to pay for this? Is the developer going to be responsible for this? Need to have this moratorium and get our act together.

#### XIV. REMARKS BY COUNCILORS

- Councilor Budrejko stated that more than 25 signatures were collected for the petition, which means we will be holding a public hearing. Please come to that hearing and speak again to address this issue; that is where it will have the most impact.
- Councilor Anest stated that what Barbara said will be prudent for our application. All comments from the public hearing will be incorporated into our application to the state and she made some valid points. Is it possible for us to get a copy of that petition that was filed?
- Councilor Manke wanted to address Mrs. Lyons and stated that they didn't change that section of the rules. Would assume that the mayor would have the discretion based on this use.
- Councilor Braverman stated that the Youth Adult Council meeting they got to see a preview of the movie Resilience. It is one hour long, recommend getting a viewing and the opening it up for others. It's addresses alcohol and opioid addition issues.
- Councilor Donahue asked if it is something we own, if we do, we can play it on NCTV.
- Mayor DelBuono asked Councilor Braverman to get more information. She also stated that the ADA compliance at the new town hall is a concern for her. Looking to council liaison to bring it up at the next building committee meeting. Regarding the public participation – it we have a few people that want to speak and they run over that's ok, but if we have an auditorium full of people, then we are going to stick to the time limit, so it will be on an as needed basis and if someone is in the middle of a thought I am not going to cut them off. We want to hear from the people, that was a cornerstone of our platform that we ran on. Regarding the FF&E issue, there have been ongoing discussions with the superintendent and with Lou. There is some money in CIP that has been put in in past years.

#### XV. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Councilor Anest to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 p.m. Seconded by Councilor Braverman. Motion passed 8-0 (Councilor Nagel absent).

Respectfully submitted,

  
Susan Gibbon  
Council Clerk

DATE: January 13, 2020

TO: Keith Chapman, Town Manager  
Beth DelBuono, Mayor

FROM: Dr. Maureen L. Brummett, Superintendent of Schools

**SUBJECT: ANNUAL VISIT BY NEWINGTON STATE LEGISLATORS**

The following areas may be topics for the Town Council to discuss with state legislators at your session on January 14, 2020.

**Unfunded Mandates and Legislation**

Over many years, the state government has imposed on local and regional school districts many mandates. When the state government estimates the cost of these mandates, the government almost always either grossly underestimates the local cost or does not consider the local cost at all. In addition, the deadline that is often set for meeting these mandates does not afford local school districts sufficient time to do so. In other words, mandates have been imposed for the most part without the benefit of analysis of the systemic impact of each mandate individually and of the entire mandate structure as a whole.

This year the following “Unfunded Mandates” will have a direct impact on the Board of Education Budget:

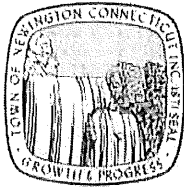
**PA 19-12:** mandates that districts offer a course on Black and Latino studies. This is one of the reasons, we will be requesting a 1.0 FTE Social Studies teacher at Newington High

**PA 19-20:** mandates that districts provide expanded training on mandated reporters. This will cut into the limited time we have for providing in-service to staff that directly impacts the instructional core.

**Change in Graduation Requirements:** the state has increased the amount of Health and Humanities credits that students need to attain in order to graduate. This is another reason for the request of increased in Social Studies teacher staffing at NHS as well as our request for a part-time PE teacher at NHS.

Finally, in no instances has the state government allocated sufficient state funds to cover the entire cost of any state imposed mandate. Accordingly, unfunded mandates have become the norm and become a financial burden to Municipalities and Boards of Education

cc: Members of the Newington Board of Education  
Members of the Newington Town Council



Keith Chapman  
Town Manager

# TOWN OF NEWINGTON

131 CEDAR STREET  
NEWINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06111

## OFFICE OF THE TOWN MANAGER

### MEMORANDUM

To: Newington State Legislators  
From: Gary Fuerstenberg, Town Engineer  
Date: January 13, 2020  
Re: Town Council Meeting- January 14, 2020

---

Department: Engineer

#### Questions or Concerns:

- Town and State infrastructure is aging. Many state/federal programs are for new construction, not maintenance of existing infrastructure. Can the State assist Towns by offer programs that focus on infrastructure maintenance? Building new infrastructure is great, but we need to maintain the infrastructure that we have, too. This is the infrastructure that our parents and grandparents built last century.